GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Fisheries Department – Proposal to promote sustainable Aqua Culture by declaration of Aqua Zones in the State - Guidelines for declaration of Aqua Zones in the Coastal Districts of State of Andhra Pradesh – Approved – Orders – Issued.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY DEVELOPMENT & FISHERIES(FISH) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 16 Dated: 20-04-2018

Read the following:

1. G.O.Ms.No.07, AHDD&F(Fish.II) Department, Dated:16.03.2013.
2. G.O.Ms.No.15, AHDD&F(Fish.II) Department,Dated:29.04.2013.
3. G.O.Ms.No.13, AHDD&F(Fish) Department, Dated:25.5.2015
4. G.O.Ms.No.48, AHDD&F(Fish) Department,Dated:20.09.2016.
5. G.O.Ms.No.32, AHDD&F(Fish) Department, Dated:25.10.2017.
6. G.O.Ms.No.08, AHDD&F(Fish) Department, Dated:23.2.2018.

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ORDER:

In the reference 1st read above, comprehensive and consolidated instructions and guidelines were issued to consider the cases for regularization of existing unregistered fresh water aquaculture farms and also for registering and renewal of new fresh water aquaculture farms and hatcheries and amendments/Constitution of District Level Committee issued thereon in the references 2nd to 5th read above.

2. In the reference 6th read above, orders were issued by the Govt., constituting High Level Committee under the Chairmanship of the Principal Secretary to Govt., AHDD&F Department, to study the zonation process adopted and to be adopted into the criteria and all the existing guidelines in vogue and the experts opinions for the benefit of the aqua farmers and sustainability of aqua culture in the State.

3. High Level Committee meetings were held on 01.03.2018 and 16.03.2018 respectively. In the said meetings the criteria and the guidelines to be followed for aqua zonation process was discussed in detail and arrived at the draft guidelines for aquaculture zonation process along with Affidavit.

4. Government after careful examination and in continuation to aforesaid references read above, here by approve the guidelines for declaration of Aqua Zones in the Costal Districts of the State along with the Forms and Affidavit appended as Annexure to this order.

5. The Commissioner of Fisheries, and the District Collectors concerned shall take necessary further action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To:
The Commissioner of Fisheries, Poranki, Bandar road, A.P. Vijayawada(we).
The District Collectors of all Nine(9) Coastal Districts(through Commissioner of Fisheries).
Copy to;
PS to M (M,AHDD&F)
PS to C.S.
PS to Additional Secretary, to C.M.
The General Administration(Cabinet) Department,
PS to Principal Secretary, AHDD&F Department.
SC/SF

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE – I
(G.O.Ms.No.16, AHDD&F(Fish) Department, Dated:20.04.2018)

GUIDELINES FOR DECLARATION OF AQUA ZONES AND FOR ZONATION IN THE COASTAL DISTRICTS OF THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH.

1 Andhra Pradesh is blessed with 1.74 lakh hectares of brackish water area and about 6 lakh hectares of freshwater resources. The total area under aquaculture is 1.96 lakh ha. (Includes Brackish Water area of 0.58 lakh ha and fresh water area of 1.38 lakh ha.).

2 Govt., of Andhra Pradesh have identified the fisheries as one of the growth engine under primary sector mission for achieving double digit inclusive growth. The A.P. Fisheries Policy, 2015 envisages to achieve the fish production from 27.66 lakh tonnes (2016-2017) to 42 lakh tonnes with a GVA of Rs. 80,000 crore by 2019-20. A.P. ranks first in the country in total fish and prawn production and producing more than 70% of cultured shrimp in the country. The State ranks third in global shrimp production (0.3 million tons) and sixth in aquaculture production (1.57 million tonnes).

3 The accelerated growth of aquaculture in Andhra Pradesh has resulted in increased production of shrimp and enhanced the foreign exchange earnings. During 2016-17, out of the total earnings of Rs.37,000 crores from India, the share of Andhra Pradesh is about Rs.17, 000/- crores (45.9 %). The rapid and aggressive growth of aquaculture effects the aquatic environment through release of heavy organic load, large amounts of chemicals, antibiotics and other substances and resulted emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria in aquaculture environments and antibiotic resistance in fish/shrimp pathogens. Few shrimp consignments are being rejected due to presence of antibiotic residues by major markets such as USA, European Union and Japan.

4 Several complaints have been received that aquaculture is adversely affecting the agriculture. The Agriculture crops are being adversely affected and the soil and waters are being polluted due to neighbouring Aquaculture farms. Few court cases have also been filed by various applicants stating the pollution related issues.

5 The government desires to promote and sustain the Blue Revolution through the multi-pronged approach which includes the introduction of fast-growing, high-yielding species. There are several constraints and issues viz., traceability, pollution, ground water Salinization etc., faced by this sector which needs to be addressed. Further, strategies for sustainable aquaculture need to be formulated, of which declaration of Aqua culture zones is an important issue. Different stake holders of the Aqua industry in the state requested for declaration of the Aquaculture zones during the meetings convened by the Apex Committee and Task Force Committee constituted vide G.O. RT. No. 271, AH, DD & Fisheries (Fish) Dept. Dt. 04.10.2017.

6 The objectives of Zonation of Aquaculture *inter alia* include:

i. Regulation and prohibition of the unauthorized conversions of Fertile Agriculture lands into Aquaculture.
ii. Promotion of the Sustainable aquaculture.
iii. Taking up of Aquaculture in the suitable areas like low lying, prone to water logging and agriculturally unproductive and saline soils.
iv. Adopting eco-friendly farming techniques such as proper drainage system, water quality monitoring, disease surveillance, provision of common ETPs and reduce adverse social and environmental conflicts
v. Infrastructure development in the aqua zones like providing transportation facility, power supply, approach roads and drainage facilities.

vi. Ensuring forward and backward linkages for aqua sector through PPP mode such as creation of the facilities like seed production centers / hatcheries, ice plants, processing plants, aqua labs and marketing units for value added products etc.
vii. Streamlining the online licensing system, Pre licensing system in Zone area and other services, thereby up scaling these zones as Farmer Producer Organizations a viable Micro Economic units.
viii. Implementing bio security measures and disaster risk management.
ix. Regulation of the usage of water, with polyculture and crop rotation for sustainable farming.
x. Promoting Re-circulatory Aquaculture Systems (RAS) to maintain quality water and avoid polluted water sources.

7 Against this background, Govt. of A.P. has issued G.O.Ms. No.13 AH DD & Fisheries (Fish) Department Dt. 25.05.2015 for undertaking Survey and identification of the areas for declaration of "Aquaculture Zones" with the objective of preventing the conversion of fertile agriculture fields into fish ponds in the Districts of Krishna, West Godavari, East Godavari, Guntur, Prakasam and Nellore Districts and to take up fish culture in the low lying, prone to water logging and agriculturally Unproductive lands and constituted District Level Committees with members from CIFA, MPEDA, CMFRI, CAA, CIBA, SVVU, Tirupati, progressive Fish/Shrimp farmers, District Fisheries Officers under the Chairmanship of District Collector.

8 Further, Govt. of A.P. have issued G.O. Ms No. 8 AH DD & Fisheries (Fish) Department Dt. 23.02.2018 on Constitution of High Level Committee (HLC) for Regularization and Development of sustainable Aquaculture by Declaration of Aqua culture Zones with the members from Export Inspection Council (EIC), MPEDA, CAA, CIBA, CIFA, PCB, Agriculture Det., Forest Dept. District Collectors of 9 coastal districts, Commissioner of Fisheries under the Chairmanship of Principle Secretary, AH, DD & Fisheries, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh. The meeting of the Committee was convened and issues were discussed in detail.

9 Criteria for zoning of Aquaculture *inter alia* include:

(i) Carrying capacity estimation of water bodies, Assessment of availability of water by source (such as Irrigation, Drain water etc..) and by seasonality by the Irrigation Dept., in consultation with the Fisheries Dept., and the Agriculture Dept. in canals, rivers, creeks and drains.
(ii) Assessment of available water quality parameters (pH, Hardness, salinity etc.) in canals, rivers, creeks and drains, etc.
(iii) Soil quality (Physico Chemical properties).
(iv) Existing land use pattern (Agriculture, Aquaculture, Horticulture etc.)
(v) Identification of the lands suitable for aquaculture such as:

- Lands prone to inundation & low lying besides creeks, canals, drains.
- Lands surrounded by Aqua culture ponds, water logging areas and lands affected with fish ponds.
- Lands that are Alkaline, Low productive and un-productive for Agri., crops i.e. lands having high salinity & alkalinity etc.

(vi) Prevention of pollution of water, soil, ground water and also adverse impacts on nearby Agriculture, Horticulture crops etc.
(vii) Species culture depending on the salinity parameters such as:

- **High Saline coastal areas**: above 15 ppt - L vannamei, P. indicus, Mudcrab, Seaweeds, Cobia, Trachinotus blochii (Silver pampino), Groupers, Snappers, Oysters, mussels etc.
- **Brackish water areas**: 5-15 ppt - L vannamei, P. monodon, Mudcrab, Latis calcarifer, Tilapia etc.

- **Very low saline**: 1 to 5 ppt - Indian Major Carps, L vannamei, P. monodon, Latis, Tilapia, Roop chand, Pangasius etc.
- **Freshwater**: 0 ppt. - Indian Major Carps, Latis, Tilapia, Roop chand, Pangasius, Anabas, Murrel, Magur, Macrobrachium sps., Hilsa, Pabda, minor carps etc.

(viii) Existing provisions of various relevant Acts and Rules/Regulations.
(ix) Relevant directions contained in various Judgments of Honb'le Courts.

10. Zonation Process *inter alia* include:

(i) Village is considered as unit for notification of the aquaculture area.
(ii) In each village existing Aquaculture area and Non Aquaculture areas are to be identified with survey Nos., and geo tagging.
(iii) In the existing aquaculture area further demarcation of area into Brackish Water area under the jurisdiction of CAA and Freshwater area under the jurisdiction of State Govt. as per the rules and guidelines in vogue is to be done with survey No.s wise and geo tagging the area along with Maps.
(iv) Potential aquaculture areas in the suitable lands (such as mentioned below) has to be identified with survey no. and geo tagging of the area and preparation of Maps based on the APSAC maps and parameters like suitability of site, soil and water quality, water source, carrying capacity, drainage facility, pollution issues, etc.

a. Area of the Lands prone to inundation & low lying beside to creeks, canals, drains and suitable for Aquaculture.
b. Area of the Lands surrounded by Aqua ponds and water logging areas and lands affected with existing fish ponds and
c. Lands Alkaline, not suitable for Agriculture, Horticulture, Sericulture etc and un productive for Agri., crops.

(v) Those existing brackish water aquaculture farms and the potential lands suitable for aquaculture mentioned at Para 10.4 which complies all the existing guidelines may be declared as Aquaculture zone.
(vi) The existing fresh water aquaculture farms and the potential lands in fresh water areas suitable for aquaculture may be declared as Aquaculture zone subject to fulfilment of the conditions mentioned at Para 9.
(vii) Village, Mandal and District level Maps with survey numbers for all the above mentioned lands (both existing and identified potential aquaculture area) should be prepared.
(viii) Tools for Aqua culture Zoning:
- Mee Bhoomi Online Records (Classification of land available/ Revenue Dept)
- Village Maps (Survey Department) and Mandal Maps
- District wise Maps and Data (AP Space Application Centre)
- Existing Aquaculture Registration Data (Fisheries))/Online Meeseva data
- Geospatial Information (Fisheries Department and MPEDA)
- Water resources from Water Resources Dept.

(ix) Aquaculture Zones in each village should be clearly demarcated in both Brackish water and Fresh water areas duly following the prescribed guidelines.
(x) Prohibition of conversion of Agriculture lands in non aquaculture zones into Aquaculture ponds.
(xi) Agricultural lands, saltpan lands, Mangroves, wet lands, forest lands, land for village common purpose and the land meant for public purposes and ecologically sensitive areas like national parks and sanctuaries etc, shall not be converted to aquaculture farms in Brackish and Fresh water areas.

(xii) Agricultural practices can be restored back in the Aquaculture ponds by following the prescribed guidelines.

(xiii) The Agriculture /Horticulture farmers existing in Aqua culture Zones may continue their culture practices. Their interests should be protected and need not forcibly convert their lands into aqua culture ponds.

(xiv) All stake holders should be consulted appropriately by conducting Grama Sabhas, Mandal and District Level Meetings and wide publication of data in multiple ways such as through Notice Boards of Panchayats and all notified and relevant public places, through District website & other electronic, print and social Media, etc.

(xv) The District Level Committee headed by the District Collector will finalize the aqua zonation proposal with clear cut demarcation and notification of areas and also arrive the required infrastructure facilities to be developed in the aquaculture zones and submit to the Commissioner of Fisheries for taking further course of action.

(xvi) The Commissioner of Fisheries, thoroughly scrutinize and place before the High Level Committee for study and recommending appropriate course of action to the Govt.

(xvii) The High Level Committee will examine the proposals and recommend to the Govt. for notification of Aquaculture Zones.

11. Penal Provisions:

- As per the provisions contained in relevant Acts & Rules such as Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act 1974, Environmental Protection Act 1986, CRZ Notification, 2011, Andhra Pradesh Water, Land & Trees Act 2002, Coastal Aquaculture Authority Act,2005 etc.

12. Online application along with Affidavit:

- All the aqua farmers have to avail various services such as permissions to take up aqua farming, renewal of permissions etc., by online submission of application in the prescribed format along with the Affidavit and other relevant documents.

NOTE: The above operative guidelines are in addition to the existing provisions in various Acts & Rules / Regulations of Central & State Govt.`s in case of any (unintended) contradiction, the provisions contained in Acts/Rules will prevail.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

APPLICATION FORMS

FORM - A

Application for Registration of Existing Fresh Water Aquaculture Farm

DATE OF APPLICATION:

APPLICATION NO: (to be given by the DFO Office)

(1)	Name of the applicant/registered Company/ Establishment in BLOCK LETTERS with permanent address) UID No. Mobile No. Email:	
(2)	Address for communication (in BLOCK LETTERS)	
(3)	Details of land for which registration is applied for	
	a) District b) Mandal c) Revenue village d) Survey No e) Ownership right (whether free hold or leasehold, if leasehold specify the period of lease- from date to date) f) Total farm area g) Water spread area	
(4)	Boundaries of the farm(North, South, East, West) along with GPS Coordinates	
(5)	Category of the land	
	a) Waste land b) Low productive agricultural land c) Prone to inundation d) Low lying area e) Water logged area	
(6)	Water source for the aquaculture farm a) Irrigation canal b) Irrigation drain c) other source (except bore well)	
(7)	Date of commencement of farm	
(8)	Usage of bore water to supplement the evaporation a) Permission under the Andhra Pradesh WALTA Act. 2002. b) Depth of bore well c) Diameter of the bore well d) Yield/hour e) Capacity of the Motor f) Salinity of the bore water	

(9)	Whether seepage trench is provided.	
(10)	Distance from the a) agricultural lands (in north, south, east and west directions) b) village/ hamlet c) drinking water source d) places of worship e) burial ground f) road margin g) Others (Specify)	
(11)	Culture aspects a) species of fish /prawn b) type of culture c) stocking densities d) feeding pattern e) duration of crop f) No of crops/Annum	
(12)	Processing fee details	
(13)	Other details, if any	

Declaration by the Applicant

I/We …….Son/ Daughter /Wife of …….residing at …… hereby declare that the information furnished above is true to the best of my/our and behalf . I/We are fully aware that if it is found that the information furnished in the application is false or there is any deviation /violation of the conditions of registration or the guidelines or rules stipulated in the G.O.Ms.No. …….. or of the relevant Government Orders issued by Government from time to time, action as deemed fit may be taken against me/us.

SIGNATURE

Check List

(To be attached to the Application)

(1) Copy of the land title deed in the name of the applicant (s) is attached.

OR

(in case of leased land) the lease deed is enclosed.

(2) If bore water is used for supplementing the evaporation losses of water in the aqua farm , a copy of the permission letter from the competent authority under the Andhra Pradesh WALTA Act, 2002 is enclosed.

(3) Layout plan of the aqua farm along with details mentioned in the application form at Column No.5 & 11 is enclosed.

(4) Demand Draft towards processing fee in favour of District Fisheries Officer is enclosed.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

FORM - B

Application for Registration of New Fresh Water Aquaculture Farm (Provisional)

DATE OF APPLICATION:
APPLICATION NO: (to be given by the DFO Office)

(1)	Name of the applicant/registered Company/ Establishment in BLOCK LETTERS with permanent address) UID No. Mobile No. Email:	
(2)	Address for communication (in BLOCK LETTERS)	
(3)	Details of land for which registration is applied for	
	a) District b) Mandal c) Revenue village d) Survey No e) Ownership right (whether free hold or leasehold, if leasehold specify the period of lease- from date to date) f) Total farm area g) Water spread area	
(4)	Boundaries of the farm(North, South, East, West) along with GPS Coordinates	
(5)	Category of the land	
	a) Waste land b) Low productive agricultural land c) Prone to inundation d) Low lying area e) Water logged area	
(6)	source for the aquaculture farm Water a) Irrigation canal b) drain c) other source (except bore well)	
(7)	Distance from the a) agricultural lands (in north, south, east and west directions) b) village/ hamlet c) drinking water source d) places of worship e) burial ground f) road margin g) others (specify)	
(8)	Processing fee details	

(9)	Other details, if any	

Declaration by the Applicant

I/We …….Son / Daughter /Wife of …… residing at …….hereby declare that the information furnished above is true to the best of my/our and behalf . I/We are fully aware that if it is found that the information furnished in the application is false or there is any deviation /violation of the conditions of registration or the guidelines or rules stipulated in the G.O.Ms. No. ….. or of the relevant Government Orders issued by Government from time to time, action as deemed fit may be taken against me/us.

SIGNATURE

Check List

(To be attached to the Application)

1. Copy of the land title deed in the name of the applicant (s) is attached.

OR

(in case of leased land) the lease deed is enclosed.

2. Layout plan of the aqua farm along with details mentioned in the application form at column No.4&7 is enclosed.

3. Demand Draft towards processing fee in favor of District Fisheries Officer is enclosed.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

FORM - C

Application for Registration of New Fresh Water Aquaculture Farm (Final)

DATE OF APPLICATION:

APPLICATION NO: (to be given by the DFO Office)

(1)	Name of the applicant/registered Company/ Establishment in BLOCK LETTERS with permanent address) UID No. Mobile No. Email:	
(2)	Address for communication (in BLOCK LETTERS)	
(3)	Details of land for which registration is applied for	
	a) District b) Mandal c) Revenue village d) Survey No e) Ownership right (whether free hold or leasehold, if leasehold specify the period of lease- from date to date) f) Total farm area g) Water spread area	
(4)	Boundaries of the farm(North, South, East, West) along with GPS Coordinates	
(5)	Usage of bore water to supplement the evaporation a)Permission under the Andhra Pradesh WALTA Act. 2002 b)Depth of bore well c)Diameter of the bore well d)Yield/hour e)Capacity of the motor f) Salinity of the bore water	
(6)	Whether seepage trench is provided.	
(7)	Culture aspects a) species of fish /prawn b) type of culture c) stocking densities d) feeding pattern e) duration of crop f) No of crops.	
(8)	Processing fee details	
(9)	Other details, if any	

Declaration by the Applicant

I/We …….Son/ Daughter /Wife of …….residing at …….hereby declare that the information furnished above is true to the best of my/our and behalf . I/We are fully aware that if it is found that the information furnished in the application is false or there is any deviation /violation of the conditions of registration or the guidelines or rules stipulated in the G.O.Ms. No. ….. or of the relevant Government Orders issued by Government from time to time, action as deemed fit may be taken against me/us.

SIGNATURE

Check List
(To be attached to the Application)

1. If bore water is used for supplementing the evaporation losses of water in the aqua farm , a copy of the permission letter from the competent authority under WALTA Act, 2002 is enclosed.

2. Layout plan of the aqua farm along with details mentioned in the application form at column No.6 is enclosed.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

హామీ పత్రం

(దరఖాస్తు పత్రముతో జతపరచవలెను)

_____ జిల్లా కలక్టర్ మరియు చైర్మన్ మంచినీటి చేపల పెంపకం జిల్లా స్థాయి కమిటీ, వారికి _____ జిల్లా _____ మండలం, _____ గ్రామం వాస్తవ్యులు శ్రీ/శ్రీమతి_____ తండ్రి/భర్త _____ మరియు _____ఇతరులు వ్రాసి ఇచ్చిన హామీ పత్రము నేను/మేము_____ గ్రామంలోని_____ సర్వే నెంబర్లలో గల _____ ఎకరముల విస్తీర్ణంలో మంచినీటి చేపల చెరువులు త్రవ్వుకొనుటకు ప్రొవిజినల్ అనుమతి కొరకు మీ సేవలో ధరఖాస్తు నెం._____ ద్వారా _____ తేదీన ధరఖాస్తు చేసియున్నాను.

నేను/మేము తమరు తాత్కాలికఅనుమతి మంజూరు చేసిన పిదప జి.ఓ.7AH,DD&F(Fish-II)తేది.16.03.2013మరియు తదుపరి సవరణలులోని నిబంధనలనుతూ.చ.తప్పకుండా పాటిస్తూ చెరువు త్రవ్వుతాను. ఫైనల్ పర్మిషన్ పొందిన పిదప మాత్రమే చేపల పెంపకం చేపడతాను. చెరువులో కేవలము మంచినీటి చేపల పెంపకము మాత్రమే చేపడతాను. ఒకవేళ నేను/మేము వెనామి రొయ్యల పెంపకం చేపట్టినట్లయితే ప్రభుత్వం వారి అనుమతి తీసుకొని ప్రభుత్వ నిబంధనలకు లోబడి పెంపకం చేపడతాను. బోర్లు ద్వారా ఉప్పునీటిని రాబట్టుట గాని వెనామీ రొయ్యల పెంపకం చేపట్టుట గాని చేయనని మరియు నా ప్రక్క వ్యవసాయ రైతులకు గాని పర్యావరణానికి గాని హాని కలిగించే ఏ పని చేయనని ఇందుమూలముగా తెలియజేయుచున్నాను.

నేను/మేము అన్ని చట్టాలు/□□□□□□□□□ □□□□ □□□□(□□□□□□□□ □□□□□□□ □□□□□ □□□□□□□□□) □□□□□□ 1974, □□□□□□□□□□(□□□□□□□□□) □□□□□□, 1986, CRZ □□□□□□□□□□□□□ 2011, □□□□□□□□□□□□□□ □□□□□,□□□ □□□□□□ □□□□□□□ □□□□□□, 2002 etc, □□□□□□□□□ □□□□□□□□ □□□□□ □□□□□□□□□□.

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ఇది నా/మా పూర్తి సమ్మతితో వ్రాసి ఇచ్చిన హామీ పత్రము.

సంతకం

సాక్షులు:

1.
2.

ఈ లిఖిత వాంగ్మూలము ను రూ. 10/ స్టాంపు కాగితం మీద పొందుపరచవలెను.

గోపాల్ కృష్ణ ద్వివేది
ప్రిన్సిపల్ సెక్రటరీ,
పశు సంవర్ధక, పాడిపరిశ్రమాభివృద్ధి మరియు మత్స్యశాఖ.